Remarks

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For completeness of the record, it is noted that a telephone interview with the Examiner was conducted on November 27, 2008. The undersigned explained that an error had occurred in the preparation of the amendment filed 11 September 2008 in that strikethrough lines for indicating text to be deleted from the claims were inadvertently omitted. Also, it was pointed out to the Examiner that the claim 1 reproduced and rejected in the pending office action is not a true version of the claim as last amended. These matters are now moot, however, in view of the presently submitted claims.

Allowed claims 14 and 16 remain in the application. Although claim 14 is allowed, it is amended taking into consideration the Examiner's rejection of claim 1 as being indefinite.

Additionally, a paragraph of the specification is amended to correct an obvious informality. As originally filed, the paragraph describes a first embodiment in which the radial spring comprises a resilient layer intermediate the strap and the clamp body. The paragraph then describes a second embodiment by noting that the resilient layer need not be disposed as in the first embodiment, but then proceeds to incorrectly describe the first embodiment as comprising a resilient layer disposed intermediate the clamp body and the pipe rather than intermediate the clamp body and the strap. The amendment to the specification corrects this misdescription.

Entry of the amendment and allowance of the application are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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